



AMENDMENTS

In the claims:

1. (Amended) An array composition comprising:

- D1
- a) a substrate with a surface comprising discrete sites at a density of at least 100 sites per 1mm^2 ; and
 - b) a population of microspheres comprising at least a first and a second subpopulation respectively, wherein said first and said second subpopulations comprise:

- i) a first and second bioactive agent, wherein said first and second bioactive agents are a protein; and
- ii) a first and second identifier binding ligand respectively, wherein said first and second identifier binding ligands are a nucleic acid;

wherein said microspheres are distributed on said surface.

D2

4. (Amended) A composition according to claim 2, 17, or 23, wherein said bioactive agents are nucleic acids.

5. (Amended) A composition according to claim 2, 17, or 23, wherein said bioactive agents are proteins.

D3

7. (Amended) A method of making a composition comprising:

- a) providing a surface comprising individual sites on a substrate at a density of at least 100 sites per 1mm^2 ;
- b) randomly distributing microspheres on said surface such that said individual sites contain microspheres, wherein said microspheres comprise at least a first

D3
and a second subpopulation, wherein said first and second subpopulations comprise:

- i) a first and second bioactive agent, respectively, wherein said first or second bioactive agent is a protein; and
 - ii) a first and a second identifier binding ligand, wherein said first and second identifier binding ligands are nucleic acids.
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D4
22. (Amended) An array composition comprising:

- a) a substrate with a surface comprising discrete sites; and
 - b) a population of microspheres comprising at least a first and a second subpopulation, wherein said first and second subpopulations comprise:
 - i) a first and a second bioactive agent, respectively, wherein said bioactive agent is a protein;
 - ii) a first and second identifier binding ligand, respectively, wherein said identifier binding ligand is a nucleic acid; and
 - iii) a first and a second decoder binding ligand, bound to said first and second identifier binding ligands, respectively;
- wherein said microspheres are randomly distributed on said surface.
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D5
25. (Amended) A method of making a composition comprising:

- a) forming a surface comprising individual sites on a substrate;
- b) randomly distributing microspheres on said surface such that said individual sites contain microspheres, wherein said microspheres comprise at least a first and a second subpopulations, wherein said first and second subpopulations comprise:
 - i) a first and second bioactive agent, respectively, wherein said bioactive agent is a protein; and
 - ii) a first and second identifier binding ligand, respectively, wherein said

DB
identifier binding ligand is a nucleic acid; and
c) binding a first and second decoder binding ligand to said first and second identifier binding ligand.

DB 32. (New) A composition according to claims 1, 4, or 22, wherein said nucleic acid is double-stranded.

33. (New) A composition according to claim 1, 4, or 22, wherein said nucleic acid is single-stranded.

34. (New) A method according to claim 7 or 25, wherein said nucleic acid is double-stranded.

35. (New) A method according to claim 7 or 25, wherein said nucleic acid is single-stranded.

36. (New) A method according to claim 7, wherein said first and second bioactive agents are proteins.

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 15-35 are pending. New claims 32-35 were added. A copy of the currently pending claims is appended hereto as Appendix A. A copy of the "Version to Show Changes Made" is also appended hereto as Appendix B for the Examiner's convenience.

Without agreeing with the propriety of the Examiner's rejections, and in order to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Applicants request that the claims be